ARKANSAS HOG AND PIG REPORT

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10800 Financial Centre Pkwy, Ste.110 Little Rock, AR 72211-3543 (501) 228-9926

http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar/

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS) U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

This report contains the results from the quarterly Hog Survey conducted during the first half of March 2004. Approximately 70 hog operations in Arkansas and 9,500 in the U.S. were surveyed to collect hog information for the reference date of March 1. The data are also posted on our home page at the Internet address above, and more detailed U.S. statistics at http://www.usda.gov/nass/. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire and interviews for the survey.

MARCH 1 HOG INVENTORY UP 15 PERCENT FROM A YEAR EARLIER

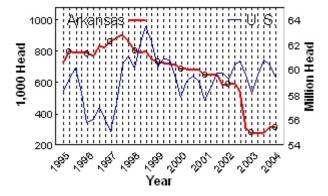
ARKANSAS inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, totaled 315,000 head, up 15 percent from March 1, 2003, and up 2 percent from December 2003. Breeding hog inventory was up 13 percent, and market hog inventory was up 15 percent from a year earlier. For the December 2003-February 2004 quarter, the pig crop totaled 365,000 head, down 8 percent from the same quarter in 2003.

Sows farrowed during the first quarter was 38,000 head, down 7 percent, and represented 45 percent of the breeding herd. Arkansas hog producers intend to have 45,000 sows farrow during the next March-May 2004 quarter, 25 percent above the actual farrowings for this period in 2003. The average number of **pigs saved per litter** for the quarter was 9.60 head, down from 9.70 head during the same period in 2003.

MARCH 1 HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, 2003-2004, ARKANSAS AND U. S.

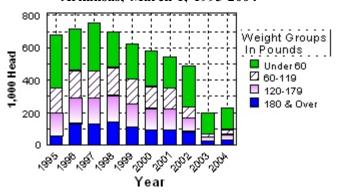
	ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES			
Item	2003	2004	% Chg.	2003	2004	% Chg.	
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	
All Hogs and Pigs	275	315	+ 15	58,183	59,315	+ 2	
Breeding	75	85	+ 13	6,017	5,915	-2	
Market	200	230	+ 15	52,166	53,399	+ 2	
Market Hogs & Pigs by Weight Groups:							
Under 60 pounds	130	135	+ 4	19,086	19,679	+ 3	
60-119 Pounds	20	30	+ 50	12,649	12,993	+ 3	
120-179 Pounds	20	30	+ 50	10,915	11,088	+ 2	
180 Pounds and Over	30	35	+ 17	9,516	9,641	+ 1	

Quarterly Hog and Pig Inventory Arkansas and U.S., 1995-2004



O - denotes Arkansas March 1 inventory.

Market Hog Inventory by Weight Group Arkansas, March 1, 1995-2004



FARROWINGS: DECEMBER-FEBRUARY QUARTER, 2003-2004¹ AND INTENTIONS FOR MARCH-MAY 2004 QUARTER

		ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES				
Item	Unit	2003	2004	% Chg. 03-04	Intent. Mar-May	2003	2004	% Chg. 03-04	Intent. Mar-May
Sows Farrowing	1,000 Head	41	38	-7	45	2,769	2,814	+ 2	2,852
Pigs per Litter	Head	9.70	9.60	-1	-	8.81	8.85	0	-
Pig Crop ²	1,000 Head	398	365	-8	-	24,399	24,895	+ 2	

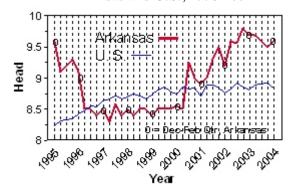
¹ December preceding year. ² Number of pigs born during December-February that were still on hand March 1, or had been sold.

ANNUAL FARROWINGS: DECEMBER-NOVEMBER, 2002-20031

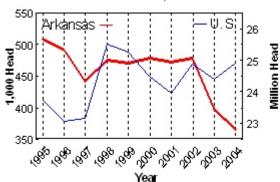
		ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES			
Item	Unit	2002	2003	% Chg.	2002	2003	% Chg.	
Sows Farrowing	1,000 Head	200	149	-25	11,492	11,401	-1	
Pigs per Litter	Head	9.53	9.63	+ 1	8.85	8.88	0	
Pig Crop	1,000 Head	1,905	1,435	-25	101,678	101,254	0	

¹ December preceding year.

Pigs per Litter by Quarter Arkansas and U.S., 1995-2004



Pig Crop, December-February Quarter¹ Arkansas and U.S., 1995-2004



¹December preceding year.